

DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT  
DIVISION OF ECONOMIC SUPPORT  
ADMINISTRATOR'S MEMO SERIES

ACTION 00-02

ISSUE DATE: 03/03/2000  
DISPOSAL DATE: Ongoing

RE: Medicaid Purchase Plan

To: County Departments of Human Services Directors  
County Departments of Social Services Directors  
Tribal Economic Support Directors  
W-2 Agency Directors

From: Jan Van Vleck /s/  
Acting Deputy Administrator

**Purpose:** This DES Administrator's Memo will:

- Provide local agency managers with a summary of a new Medicaid subprogram called the Medicaid Purchase Plan (MAPP)
- Advise agency managers of the administrative funding allocated to implement and run the Medicaid Purchase Plan
- Explain the implementation schedule and requirements for the new Medicaid subprogram, the Medicaid Purchase Plan (MAPP).

**Background:** Section 4733 of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (Public Law 105-33) allows states to make available a new subprogram for individuals with disabilities whose net family income is below 250% of the federal poverty level. In Wisconsin, this subprogram is called the Medicaid Purchase Plan (MAPP) and was created by Wisconsin Act 9 in 1999. Eligibility for MAPP will be determined by the appropriate local agency (i.e., Income Maintenance Agency or W-2 Agency) depending on the characteristics of the case. Refer to the W-2 and Related Programs RFP for definitions of W-2 cases, for which the W-2 agency is responsible and an IM (non W-2) case, for which the IM agency is responsible.

The goal of the Medicaid Purchase Plan is to:

- Encourage people with disabilities to earn more income without risking loss of health and long term care coverage,
- Allow people with disabilities to save more towards retirement or home ownership, or other financial independence opportunities, and
- Increase the ability of people with disabilities to purchase services that enhance independence.

**Summary of Program:** The Medicaid Purchase Plan (MAPP) is a new subprogram of the Medicaid program. It was created and made an optional categorically needy subprogram under the federal Balanced Budget Act of 1997. The Department was authorized in the 1999-2001 Biennial Budget (1999 Wisconsin Act 9) to implement this program.

- **Nonfinancial:** MAPP provides Medicaid benefits to persons who are disabled and who are either working or participating in a Health and Employment Counseling program. The determination of disability for MAPP is still determined using the Disability Determination Bureau and continues to use SSI Disability requirements, except as they relate directly to the ability of the individual to work.
- **Financial:** The MAPP program is available to qualifying persons whose family income is less than 250% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) and whose individual countable assets do not exceed \$15,000.
- **Premiums:** For those individuals whose **own** income exceeds 150% FPL a premium will be required as a condition of eligibility. The premium is based upon 3% of the individual's earnings as well as a portion of the individual's unearned income.
- **Other:** Persons enrolled in MAPP are allowed to create and maintain an Independence Account. The Independence Account is exempt from consideration in the Medicaid Purchase Plan. The Independence Account must be a financial account. The eligible individual can place up to 50% of his or her earnings in a 12-month period into the Independence Account.

**MAPP Administrative Funding:** The projected number of participants in the program per the Biennial Budget Act is 1,100 individuals. Based on an analysis of CARES data, approximately 98 percent of the individuals that would be likely participants in this program did not have minor children. For that reason, the amount appropriated by the Legislature for this Medicaid subprogram (\$94,700 statewide) will be allocated to Income Maintenance agencies. Please see the attached table for allocation information. A contract supplement will be sent to Income Maintenance agencies. These funds will be added to the Income Maintenance Administrative Allocation and do not need to be separately tracked or reported.

**Implementation Plan & Schedule for MAPP:** The Medicaid Purchase Plan must be implemented on March 15, 2000.

This program must be implemented on this date by state law and in order to achieve the projected savings for the program. These savings, as projected by the Legislative Fiscal

Bureau, will be achieved by moving nearly 700 individuals from the fully state funded Community Options Program (COP) into the state/federally funded MAPP program.

Training is not scheduled on MAPP policies and processes until after the implementation date. In order to protect our March 15, 2000 implementation date, but also to accommodate our training schedule, the Department is directing staff to delay determining MAPP eligibility until after they have been trained. Local agency staff must therefore keep a log of individuals who are disabled and working who are determined ineligible for Medicaid because of excess income or assets. For those who need a disability determination before Medicaid eligibility can be determined, agency staff must refer their Medicaid Disability Application (MADA) on to the Disability Determination Bureau. For those already determined disabled, a manual notice will need to be sent explaining the delay in the determination of MAPP eligibility pending training.

The program will be implemented initially without any changes being made to CARES. This means that local agency staff must determine eligibility, certify eligibility and handle all other tasks manually. The Department of Health and Family Services will be working with DWD over the coming months to implement MAPP in CARES, but must first make changes to CARES associated with Family Care before beginning this work. The earliest that CARES could be changed to incorporate MAPP is the end of this year.

An Operations Memo with the MAPP detailed policies and processes will be distributed by March 2000.

REGIONAL OFFICE CONTACT: Area Administrators

Attachment

# ATTACHMENT

County/Tribe	MAPP Additional IMAA Funding
Adams	\$ 476
Ashland	600
Barron	1,335
Bayfield	352
Brown	3,155
Buffalo	388
Burnett	393
Calumet	407
Chippewa	1,305
Clark	753
Columbia	818
Crawford	475
Dane	4,063
Dodge	1,266
Door	530
Douglas	1,320
Dunn	797
Eau Claire	1,807
Florence	300
Fond du Lac	1,526
Forest	332
Grant	977
Green	589
Green Lake	342
Iowa	374
Iron	300
Jackson	473
Jefferson	1,070
Juneau	583
Kenosha	2,268
Kewaunee	300
La Crosse	2,035
Lafayette	300
Langlade	573
Lincoln	629
Manitowoc	1,315
Marathon	1,876
Marinette	1,042
Marquette	309

County/Tribe	MAPP Additional IMAA Funding
Menominee	\$ 300
Milwaukee	22,336
Monroe	817
Oconto	689
Oneida	864
Outagamie	1,497
Ozaukee	562
Pepin	300
Pierce	553
Polk	956
Portage	1,081
Price	552
Racine	2,902
Richland	413
Rock	2,599
Rusk	510
St. Croix	825
Sauk	891
Sawyer	477
Shawano	764
Sheboygan	1,538
Taylor	523
Trempealeau	755
Vernon	678
Vilas	404
Walworth	1,277
Washburn	422
Washington	1,130
Waukesha	2,431
Waupaca	1,342
Waushara	533
Winnebago	2,138
Wood	1,488
Bad River	300
Lac du Flambeau	300
Oneida Tribe	300
Red Cliff	300
Sokaogon	300
Stockbridge-Munsee	300